

P21989.P03

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : A. MARUYAMA et al.

Appl No. : Not Yet Assigned

PCT Branch

I.A. Filed : August 24, 2000

PCT/JP00/05711

For : METHOD OF DETECTING AND QUANTITATING MICROORGANISM HAVING  
SPECIFIC FUNCTION AND ITS GENE FROM NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, NOVEL  
16 SrRNA GEE DATA AND PROBES**CLAIM OF PRIORITY**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant hereby claims the right of priority granted pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 119 based upon Japanese Application No. 11-237818, filed August 25, 1999. The International Bureau already should have sent a certified copy of the Japanese application to the United States designated office. If the certified copy has not arrived, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,  
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February 22, 2002  
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